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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/8/2007

SPONSOR Gutierrez LAST UPDATED _____ HB 457

SHORT TITLE NMSU Horticulture Research Garden SB _____

ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 457 appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund to the NMSU Regents for expenditure in FY 2008 to pay for a manager for the Fabian Chavez Horticulture Research Garden.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Fabian Garcia Science Center, just west of NMSU's main campus, supports greenhouse, orchard and crop research. It also contains a botanical garden and turf demonstration plots, which are used to screen new plant materials and to teach classes on landscaping, ornamental design and maintenance. The Higher education Department reports that the Fabian Chavez Horticulture

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Research Garden is part of the Fabian Garcia Science Center. The NMSU Office of Government Affairs indicates it is the “Fabian Griego Horticulture Research Garden.”

It is not clear if the proposed manager is for the Fabian Garcia Science Center or a Fabian Chavez/Griego Horticulture Research Garden.

This proposal was not submitted to the HED by NMSU and was not included in the Department’s funding recommendation for FY08.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

1. Is it the Fabian Chavez Horticulture Research Garden or the Fabian Griego Horticulture Garden?
2. Is the manager intended to be for the Fabian Garcia Science Center or for the Horticulture Garden?

BM/nt